

# Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

November 2010

Volume 11 Issue 11

## Fort Wayne Hamfest and Computer Expo Indiana State A.R.R.L. Convention November 13 - 14, 2010, Fort Wayne, Indiana

The 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo, and Indiana State A.R.R.L. Convention, sponsored by the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society (AC-ARTS), will be held at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum at the corner of Indiana 930 (Coliseum Blvd) and Parnell Ave. Open to the public 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM EST on Saturday and 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM EST on Sunday. Vendor setup is Friday evening and Saturday morning. Admission is only \$6.00 for both days or \$4.00 for just Sunday **at the door only**; Children 11 and under are free when accompanied by an adult. Parking is \$4.00. There are over 750 commercial and flea market tables (108,000 sq. ft.), all under one roof, containing both new and used radio, computer, and general electronics items. Advance table reservations are required - NO table sales at the door. Vendors include several International ham equipment manufacturers. Activities will include many forums and meetings, and VE testing on Saturday. Talk-in on 146.88(-). For more information leave a message on the answering machine at (260) 579-2196 and you will be contacted. You can also send an inquiry to AC-ARTS/ Fort Wayne Hamfest, P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, Indiana 46851-0342, or visit our World Wide Web site at <http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com>.

Allen County HamNews is a monthly joint publication of the Fort Wayne Radio Club (P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN) and the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society (P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN).

Please send any articles, corrections, for sale notices, etc. to the editor, Victor Guess, WB9UZA, wb9uza at arrl.net. Please put "for newsletter" in the subject line. Text should be plain ASCII, graphics should be JPEG or GIF. For those computer impaired: snail mail to 3311 Sanibel Drive, Fort Wayne, IN, 46815-4755.

**Deadline for the Dec. issue is Friday, 12/3/2010.**

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### Internet Home Pages:

#### Fort Wayne Radio Club:

<http://www.FWRC.info/>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FWRC/>

ACARTS: <http://www.acarts.com>

Ft. Wayne DX Assoc.: <http://www.qsl.net/fwdxa/>

ARES: [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Allen\\_Co\\_IN\\_ARES/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Allen_Co_IN_ARES/)  
IN\_PACKET Yahoo Group: [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IN\\_PACKET/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IN_PACKET/)

# Ham splatter

Fort Wayne Radio Club

P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN

**Officers**

**President:**  
Tom Baker  
N9TB 747-2714  
n9tb at arrl.net

**Vice President:**  
Woody Woodbury  
KC9CGN 632-4083  
woody922 at netzero.net

**Secretary:**  
Al Burke  
WB9SSE 637-1989  
aburke55 at comcast.net

**Treasurer:**  
Bob Streeter  
W8ST 672-9737  
w8st at arrl.net

**Communications Manager:**  
Steve Nardin  
W9SAN 482-4039  
w9san at arrl.net

**Board of Directors**  
Carole Burke  
WB9RUS 637-1989  
wb9rus at comcast.net

Terry Bowman  
K9FMX 493-7177  
tjbowman at frontier.com

Charles Ward  
KC9MUT 749-4824  
kc9mut at yahoo.com

Vic Guess  
WB9UZA 485-7472  
wb9uza at arrl.net



**President's Corner**



Thanks to everyone in the club for the great turnout at the October General Meeting. The October meeting was election night for the Fort Wayne Radio Club and that did not seem to scare anyone away. We had a full slate of candidates and I want to thank everyone who is willing to serve.

The election results were: President Steve Nardin W9SAN, Vice President John Martin N9UWR, Secretary Al Burke WB9SSE, Treasurer Bob Streeter W8ST, Communications Manager Paul Prestia KA3OPZ, Newsletter Vic Guess WB9UZA, and three general board positions Tom Baker N9TB, Larry Temenoff KB9OS, and Charles Ward KC9MUT.

The outgoing president automatically moves to a general board position for one year so there were only two general board positions on the ballot this year. Thanks again to everyone that participated.

November also means the Fort Wayne Hamfest. If you read your newsletter right away then you know that the Hamfest is just days away. It is always a great time to get caught up with old friends and find some great buys on old or new gear for the shack. But remember it is also a great time to renew your Fort Wayne Radio Club membership. Please take a look at the membership application in the back of the newsletter and take note of the new dues fee structure for 2011 memberships. Make sure you stop by the Fort Wayne Radio Club table and say "Hi!" and renew your membership.

The November General Meeting will be one week after the Fort Wayne Hamfest this year. Since the Hamfest setup is the second Friday in November, our meeting will be the third Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup>. We will try again to have a presentation on Echolink and how to use Echolink on the 146.91 repeater. We will also have a vote on the proposed change to the Fort Wayne Radio Club bylaws that was discussed at the October General Meeting.

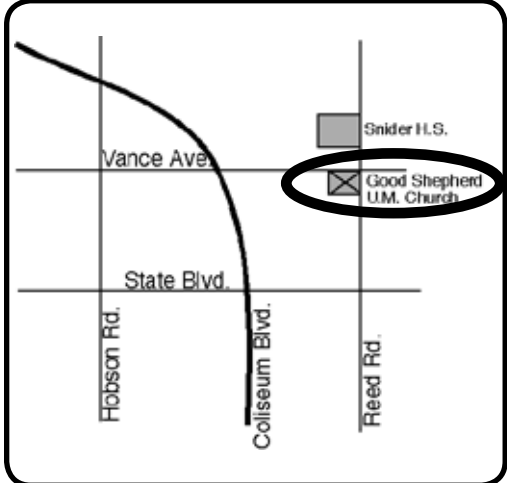
Our Constitution requires us to give notice a month ahead of any proposed changes and the subsequent vote. We will again have handouts completely explaining the proposed change. The proposed change is to replace the "special assessments" in the bylaws with specific spending cutoffs when the club treasury falls below certain limits. The "special assessments were deemed unenforceable and have never been implemented. The spending cutoffs would provide for voluntary funding of extra activities in the event of a Treasury shortfall.

The December meeting will be our annual Christmas banquet at the church with setup to start at 6:30 PM rather than the normal 7:00 PM. Also note that the December meeting will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, because of the proximity of the third Friday to Christmas Day. The Christmas Banquet will be a carry-in as we have been doing and there will be a gift exchange by gender. Please keep the gifts under \$10.

See you at the November General Meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM!

Tom / N9TB

**FWRC Meeting:  
Nov. 19, 7:00 p.m.  
Program: Echolink**



## Fort Wayne Radio Club Meeting Minutes - 15 October 2010



The October Meeting of the Fort Wayne Radio Club was held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church on October 15, 2010 with club President Tom Baker, N9TB serving as host. There were about 35 members present.

### Old Business:

Tom Baker, N9TB called the meeting to order at 7:05PM and lead the Members in the Pledge of Allegiance. That was followed by the introductions of the members.

The minutes were read by Tom in Al's absence and approved. The treasurer's report was read by Tom in Bob's absence and approved.

Treasurer's report follows:

Income – Year to date = \$2759.86

Expense – Year to date = \$3931.58

Present Shortfall is \$1171.72

Cash on hand - \$310.30

Saving/Checking – \$6053.20

Reported one Prepaid member for 2010

The scheduled Echo-link presentation fell through.

Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ talked about the Drill Scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 19. It will involve many Hospitals in the northern Indiana Area. The scenario is a Chemical spill in the Bluffton area. He still needs one more person to help out with the drill.

He also reminded everyone that the ARES Debriefing for the October 9<sup>th</sup> drill will be Wednesday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at the Fort Wayne downtown library starting at 7:00 PM.

Joseph also informed everyone that the 2011 Allen County SKYWARN training per the NWS would be Friday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at the Public Safety Academy.

Steve Nardin, W9SAN gave the Fox Hunt Report for October. Jim, K9OMA and Al, WB9SSE and spouses were the fox(s). They hid in the bushes at the Robinson Park Repeater site. There were six teams in the hunt. Charles, KC9MUT was the first to find the fox in-between the doors of the repeater shack, followed by Steve, W9SAN and Grandson, then Woody, KC9CGN, followed by the rest of the teams, which consisted of Carl, WB9YBI, Jim & Kim, KB9DOT/DOS, Fred, KC9EZF. The next foxhunt (the last of the year) will be November 7, 2010, at 1:30 PM and it will be followed by the Annual Fox Hunt Party and Tree lighting at the Pliett's on Wappes Rd at about 3:30PM (after the hunt). This is a potluck, so please bring a dish to pass along with your favorite beverage.

Tom reviewed the many Nets that are going on in the area. They are listed at the end of the newsletter.

Tom reminded everyone of the coming ACARTS Hamfest and Jim, KB9IH reviewed it and the jobs available to work. Tom mentioned he had an open position at the announcer table.

### New Business:

Bernie, K9JDF reported that the ID on the 146.94 repeater was so loud that it canceled out any input to the repeater. The Board took note and will inform the "repeater repair guys".

Break was taken about 7:45 with nominations and elections to follow.

After the break, a new nomination was made:

Linda Nardin W9LAN, for board

Woody, KC9CGN declined his Nomination for Vice-President

The ballots were modified and handed out.

While the ballots were counted (Thank you Carl, WB9YBI), Tom explained the board's proposed changes to the Club's By-Laws. They will be voted on at the November meeting.

They are as follows:

### Proposed Addition to By -Laws

The Treasurer shall monitor the cumulative balance of the sum of the club's Saving and Checking accounts and report this status regularly to the Board of Directors (BOD). The BOD will take the following actions whenever the balance mentioned above falls at or below:

- A) \$4500.00, in which case the BOD shall require that all present and future club expenses for that year operating events and meeting costs (such as Field Day activity, any Banquet expense, any other meeting expense or any special activity expense) be borne by those attending these events. The Treasurer shall propose a surcharge appropriate for the event to the BOD for their approval. In addition, any donations made to any organization for any reason (such as a club meeting place) shall be curtailed. In addition no expenditures from the club treasury that might otherwise be planned for maintenance or replacement of club equipment, (with exception of the Robinson Park electric bill) shall be made.
- B) \$4000.00, in which case, in addition to the actions already taken as described in A) above, the rental of the club's Post Office Box shall be terminated.

—continued on pg. 7

# STATE OF THE ARTS

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN

## ACARTS Officers

### President

Vic Berko, KA9LTV  
(260) 456-2012  
vberko at comcast.net

### Vice President

Dave Lindquist, W9LKH  
(260) 485-6135  
w9lkh at comcast.net

### Secretary

OPEN

### Treasurer

Howard Pletcher, N9ADS  
(260) 747-5252  
n9ads at juno.com

## ACARTS Managers

### Activities

OPEN

### Emergency Preparedness

Dan Soper, KB9NGM  
(260) 637-5787  
dan996 at aol.com

### Communications

Victor Guess, WB9UZA  
(260) 485-7472  
wb9uza at arrl.net

### Station Manager

OPEN

### Fundraising Manager

Jim Boyer, KB9IH  
(260) 489-6700  
kb9ih at arrl.net

### W9INX Trustee

Vic Berko, KA9LTV  
(260) 456-2012  
vberko at comcast.net

### Tech Committee

Emery McClendon, KB9IBW  
(260) 485-4120  
kb9ibw at juno.com

## President's Message



Can you believe that November is finally here and that means it is time for the Hamfest. Hope to see you there. The general meeting this month is going to be busy as we will have a lot of business to take care of. We will have a Hamfest wrap up, and the election of officers. The program for November is a video from the ARRL titled "Spark Gap". It is about the early days of radio.

We wrap up the year with our annual Christmas Dinner. It will be in a new Casa location. The dinner will be at the Casa Ristorante on West Jefferson Blvd. It is at the intersection of Engle Road and West Jefferson in the Midwestern Business Park. You have to make a right turn off Engle Road from Jefferson Blvd. There is no left turn access from Engle Road. The restaurant has a separate entrance for the banquet room. The club will be paying for the cost of the meal for members. You can bring a guest, but you will have to pay for their meal. The average cost of the meal is around \$7.00. You need to make a reservation for the dinner as we need to know how many people to setup for. The dinner is on Tuesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>. The start time is 7:00 PM. To make a reservation send a email to "vberko at comcast.net", or call 456-2012 and leave a message with the number of people that will be attending.

That is all I have for this month. Once again I hope to see you at the Hamfest and the Christmas Dinner.

73  
Vic, KA9LTV,

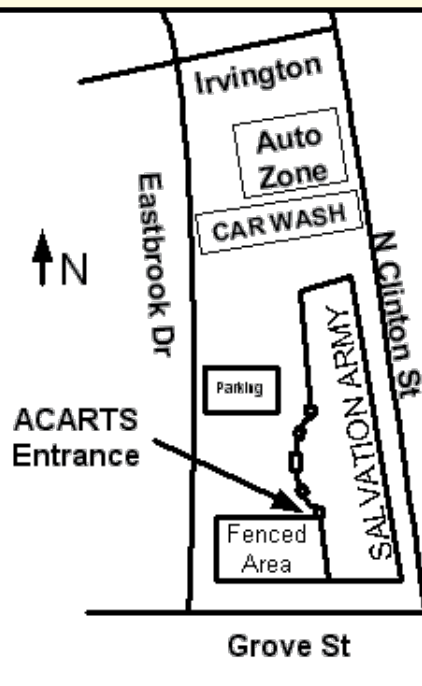


# W9INX

## Meeting Schedule

**ACARTS General Meeting:**  
11/16/2010, Program: ARRL video:  
*Spark Gap*

**Next Board Meeting:** 11/9/2010



## October 2010 ACARTS Board Meeting Minutes



The meeting was called to order Vic, KA9LTV.

Vic announced that the October program would be an ARRL video, "All About Antennas." He added that the December program would be the Christmas Dinner on 12/21/10 at 7:00 p.m. at Casa Ristorante, 7545 W. Jefferson Blvd.

A discussion on Hamfest preparations was held.

No other business was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

## Zen and the Art of Radiotelegraphy - Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

One thing that I find amusing about Morse Code is that the more people claim that it, "is dead," the more people there are that rise up to defend and promote it. Note that I said "defend and promote it," not actually use it, but that topic is for another column.

Having said that, let me direct you to a new tome on our ancient art, *Zen and the Art of Radiotelegraphy* by Carlo Consoli, IK0YGI. This book is available as a free download in the original Italian ([http://www.qsl.net/ik0ygj/enu/ZART\\_ita\\_v20100826.pdf](http://www.qsl.net/ik0ygj/enu/ZART_ita_v20100826.pdf)) and in an English translation ([http://www.qsl.net/ik0ygj/enu/ZART\\_r20101008m.pdf](http://www.qsl.net/ik0ygj/enu/ZART_r20101008m.pdf)).

What makes this book different from others is that instead of concentrating on the mechanics of learning and using Morse Code, the author spends a good deal of time talking about the psychology of learning this skill. To succeed in learning Morse Code, Consoli advises that we need to change our approach to learning:

"When learning CW, therefore, we must establish a new component in our self-image and, when doing so, we need to be relaxed. Always practice during the same time of day and in a place where you can experience positive feelings of comfort and pleasure. When we make a mistake we are always ready to blame ourselves. This is the way we learnt from our environment during childhood, often accepting any fault as our own error or weakness.

This potentially destructive mechanism can be used to build a positive self-image, rather than demolish it. A mistake must be

## October 2010 ACARTS General Meeting Minutes



The meeting was called to order Vic, KA9LTV.

Vic announced that club elections for officers and managers would be held at the November Meeting. He added that the December program would be the Christmas Dinner on 12/21/10 at 7:00 p.m. at Casa Ristorante, 7545 W. Jefferson Blvd.

After refreshments, an ARRL video "All About Antennas" was shown.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

## Severe Weather Notes: The Big Event/2011 Advanced Training - Joel KB9RH



The biggest severe weather event of the year in our area occurred during the late morning of Tuesday October 26th when a very fast-moving squall line generated over a dozen tornadoes in northeast Indiana and northwest Ohio. The tornadoes generated by the squall line fit the usual pattern: they were small, short-lived, but were capable (and did) cause property damage. Earlier in the day, the Storm Prediction Center placed almost all of Indiana and a portion of northwest Ohio in a "High Risk" area for severe thunderstorms. This occurs very rarely; across the entire United States there are only ten or so High Risk areas every year.

The agenda for the 2011 advanced spotter training has not been finalized, but is going to include presentations on "best practices" by radio amateurs who are also emergency managers, media operations during severe weather, a more detailed look at Storm Prediction Center forecast products, warning decision operations at NWS, radar and associated cloud features, and a review of some past significant severe weather events in our area.

More information and registration information is going to be posted on the [imoskywarn.org](http://imoskywarn.org) website in the near future.

considered a signal, pointing us in the right direction. If you fail, let your mistake pass away, with no blame or irritation. Learn CW in a relaxed mood, enjoy the pleasure of learning something new, repeat your exercises every day and be confident in the self-programming abilities of your self-image. Just a few minutes

**continued on pg. 8**

**Get Ready for 10 m**  
 - Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA



**Ft Wayne DX Association**

After a long drought, the first JAs of Cycle 24 on 10 m showed up in the continental US on Saturday afternoon October 23.

K7SS expressed his enthusiasm about this in his PacketCluster spot: "JA OPEN FIRST IN YEARS !!!" And K7RWT chimed in: "1st F2 JA in Cycle 24".

Although these spots were from West Coast guys, it still points to the fact that 10 m is starting to pick up. Another good sign that 10 m is picking up was the recent CQ World Wide Phone contest on the weekend of October 30 and 31. From my QTH, 10 m was consistently open on both days to the Caribbean and South America. That hasn't happened for many years.

The reason for these encouraging openings can be seen by updating the data presented in the February 2010 column. The accompanying figure shows the monthly mean sunspot number for Cycle 23 (red columns) and for Cycle 24 (blue columns) through October 2010. As was mentioned in the February column, note the 16 month overlap in Cycle 23 and Cycle 24.

Added to this updated figure is the smoothed sunspot number through April 2010. It's very obvious solar minimum occurred at the end of 2008. More importantly, the smoothed sunspot number has been steadily increasing in spite of the natural ups-and-downs of the monthly mean sunspot number. Thus this is why 10 m has been showing more and more life - Cycle 24

is indeed ascending.

So what's so special about 10 m? Four issues come to mind. First, antenna dimensions are very reasonable. A half-wave dipole on 10 m is only 16 or so feet long. And a three-element Yagi fits on a 10 foot boom. The Yagi is light enough, and has such a small wind load factor, that it can be mounted on a pole anchored to your chimney and turned with a lightweight rotator.

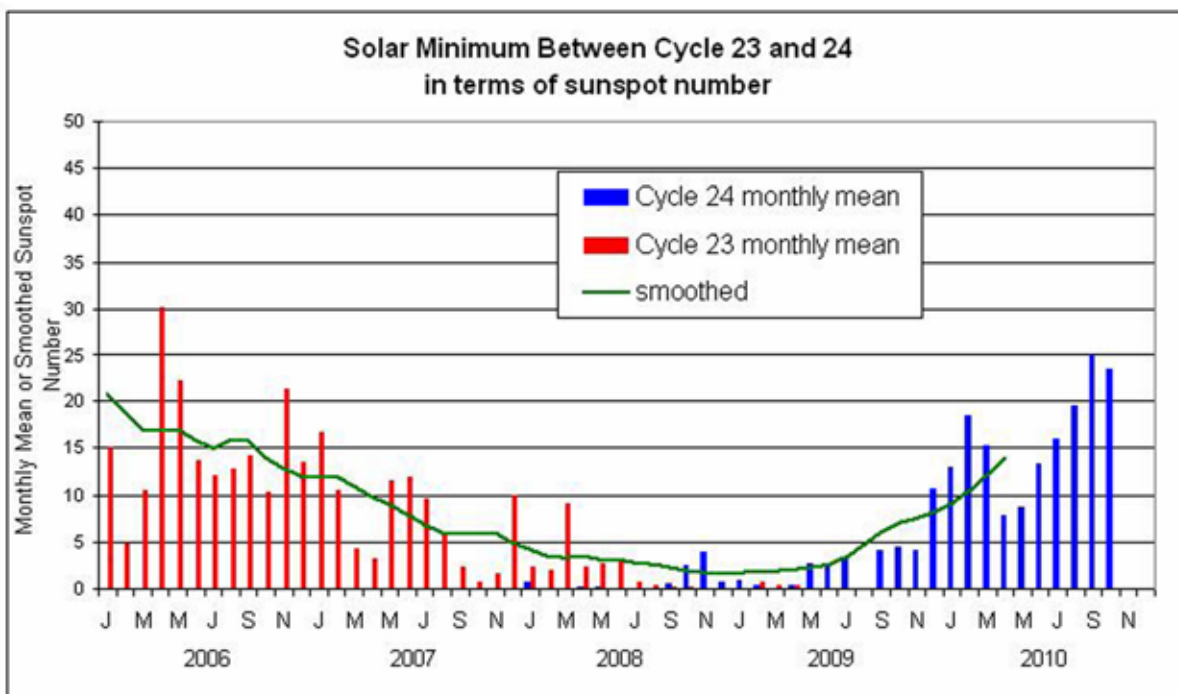
Second, man-made noise on 10 m in a residential environment should only be around S3 when you're operating on SSB (from Recommendation ITU-R P.372.7 titled Radio Noise). The noise level will be even lower if you live in a rural or quiet rural area. Thus you should be able to hear weaker signals than on the lower frequency bands.

Third, with ionospheric absorption inversely proportional to the square of the frequency, signals can be very strong on 10 m. This applies not only to short-distance QSOs, but also to the very long-haul QSOs. It's really amazing to hear JA via the long path (about 18,500 miles from Ft Wayne) with S7 signals.

Fourth, 10 m is a wide band. Our phone band starts at 28.300 MHz, and extends all the way to 29.700 MHz. Normally you'll find most people between 28.300 and 28.500 MHz, but when 10 m gets really good during a DX contest you'll find stations all the way up to 29.000 MHz. So there's plenty of room for everyone on 10 m.

In summary, these are four great reasons to get on 10 m as Cycle 24 ascends. I hope you take advantage of this opportunity, and have fun in the process.

By the way, I'll be talking more about getting ready for 10 m in a forum on Sunday at noon at the Ft Wayne hamfest. I hope to see you there.



**Fort Wayne Radio Club Minutes cont'd.**

C) Regardless of the balance of the club's Saving and Checking accounts, the Treasurer shall insure that the club's insurance policy and yearly status filing action with the Indiana Secretary of State are kept current until such time that the club treasury might be unable to fund them.

The final tally of votes for Officer's and Board of Director's for the year 2011 were read to the members by Tom Baker and are as follows:

President	Steve Nardin, W9SAN
Vice-President	John Martin, N9UWR
Secretary	Al Burke, WB9SSE
Treasurer	Bob Streeter, W8ST
Communications Officer	Paul Prestia, KA3OPZ
Editor	Vic Guess, WB9UZA
Board Member	Tom Baker, N9TB
Board Member	Larry Temenoff, KB9OS
Board Member	Charles Ward, KC9MUT

The Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Next Board Meeting, Tuesday, Nov.9<sup>th</sup>, Next Club meeting, Friday, Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

Respectfully submitted for Secretary,  
Woody Woodbury, KC9CGN  
Vice-President FWRC

**DX News: ARRL DXCC Desk Approves Six 2010 Operations**



from *The ARRL Letter* - ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, reports that six 2010 operations -- Afghanistan (T6MB), Bhutan (A51A) and Burundi (9U1RSI, 9U4T, 9U1KI and 9U1VO) have been approved for DXCC credit. "If you had cards that were recently rejected for this operation, please send an e-mail to the ARRL DXCC Desk," Moore said. "Results will appear in Logbook of The World (LoTW) accounts, as well as online on the daily listings."

**October Foxhunt Photos**

*Photos by Jim Pliett, K9OMA*



*Fox Found By Second Hunter*



*Hunters Gathering After The Hunt At Culvers For Some Treats*



*XYL's Showing Off Their "Hamsters"*



*Newest Fox Hunt Receiver , Revolutionary Design*



## For Sale & Wanted

For Sale:

Comet SBB2NMO Dual band (2M/70CM) mobile antenna.

Length: 18.5 inches

Gain: 2.15 dBi on 2M, 3.8 dBi on 70 CM

NMO mount (I'm also including NMO connector for your vehicle)

Brand New - still in package

R&L has the antenna only for \$35 will sell package for \$25

See reviews: <http://www.eham.net/reviews/detail/3158>

Don Gagnon WB8HQS

(260) 484-3317

wb8hqs(at)arrl.net

\* \* \*

For Sale—moving to Retirement Home

Heathkit Deluxe CW QRP Transceiver HW9

Heathkit Power Supply PSA-9

Heathkit Antenna Tuner HFT-9B

Heathkit QRP Wattmeter HM-9, \$60.00

Heathkit Umatic Memory Keyer SA5010A, \$30.00

Ten Tec Model 1253 Receiver, \$10.00

Ten Tec Scout 555 80-40-20 mod.-needs repair, \$30.00

Heil Clear Speech Speaker, HCS \$50.00

Hustler Mobile Antenna RM-40, \$10.00

Cushcraft R7 40-10M Vertical Antenna, \$50.00

MFJ Versa Tuner II 949E, \$60.00

MFJ Pocket CW Reader, \$10.00

MFJ Trans-Ant. Switch 1700B, \$20.00

MFJ Ground Plane Conversion Kit 1401, \$ 5.00

MFJ 5" Magnet Mount (2), \$10.00

MFJ 24 Hr Clock \$, 5.00

Dipole wire, center insulator, & parts, \$20.00

Antenna pole 6" 12" wall mounts, 10' pole, \$15.00

Assorted coax lengths with connectors, Best Offer

Assorted audio cables and plugs, Best Offer

Offers considered on all.

Tim Harrison, KF9DT

10960 Isabelle Dr., Apt. 13

New Haven, IN 46774

Cell 229-251-4027

\* \* \*

For Sale:

Kenwood T-570D 160-10 meters all mode transceiver. 100 watts with built in tuner. Used only by me. All manuals and mike. Needs 12 volt 20 amp Power supply. This is in good working condition. I will stand behind it. - \$475.00

Heathkit SB-1000 linear amplifier. With all manuals.

1000 watts output with 100 watts drive. 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters. Can work on 110 or 220 volts. This is in good working condition. I will stand behind it. - \$ 550.00

Icom 6 meter FM/SSB transceiver - 10 watts. It does not work all the time but I have worked many states with SSB and digital communications. - \$50 as is.

Mirage 1015G 6 meter linear amp - 160 watts output with 10 watts drive. Needs 12 volt supply. \$150

Wayne Steury N9EGT

260-589-8933

260-525-8933

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### cont. from pg. 5

a day: you can take care of your 'more serious' stuff later on."

Consoli also has some interesting things to say about getting faster. He agrees with me that it, "is essential to abandon pencil and paper and start copying in one, "is head. We also agree that at this point, you need to start using a paddle instead of a straight key.

He has analyzed the situation a lot more than I have, though. When hams ask me how I learned to copy in my head, all I can do is to relate my own experience, which is that one day, I just went cold turkey. I put down the pencil and paper and never copied letter-by-letter ever again.

Unfortunately, that doesn't seem to work for a lot of operators. If that doesn't work for you, Consoli says that what you need to do is to program yourself to copy in your head. You do this, he says, by relaxing and visualizing. Visualize yourself as a high-speed operator, and one day, you will be one.

That seems to have worked for him. He is a member of the Very High Speed Club (VHSC), First Class Operator, "is Club (FOC), and has been clocked at copying over 70 wpm.

Will it work for you? I'm not sure, but if you haven, "ot been successful with other methods to improve your code speed, then Consoli's methods are certainly worth a try.

- - -

When not pondering the psychology of operating CW, Dan actually operates CW. You'll find him almost every day on either 40m, 30m, and as we transition to winter here in North America, 80m. You can e-mail him with comments or questions at [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).



## Test Points

11/13/2010 | Fort Wayne IN  
Sponsor: W5YI VEC-ALLEN COUNTY

Location: ALLEN COUNTY WAR MEMORIAL COLISEUM  
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)



11/20/2010 | Elkhart IN 46515-9999

Sponsor: Michiana VE Testing  
Location: Osolo Missionary Church  
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

11/23/2010 | Marion IN 46952-9999

Sponsor: Grant County ARC  
Location: Marion Community Science and Tech Building  
Time: 5:00 PM (No walk-ins)

11/27/2010 | Archbold OH 43502-1252

Sponsor: Fulton Cty Radio Club  
Location: Archbold Police Department  
Time: 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

12/11/2010 | Van Wert OH 45891-1876

Sponsor: Un-sponsored  
Location: Van Wert County EMA  
Time: 2:00 PM (No walk-ins)

12/18/2010 | Elkhart IN 46515-9999

Sponsor: Michiana VE Testing  
Location: Osolo Missionary Church  
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

01/13/2011 | Goshen IN 46525

Sponsor: Goshen ARC  
Location: [www.goshenarc.org/ve\\_testing.html](http://www.goshenarc.org/ve_testing.html)  
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

02/19/2011 | Elkhart IN 46515-9999

Sponsor: Michiana VE Testing  
Location: Osolo Missionary Church  
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

## 2011 Basic Skywarn Spotter Training Scheduled

Allen County Homeland Security Assistant Director Lori Mayers contacted ARES EC Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ, requesting dates that would work best for local amateur radio operators to attend the 2011 Basic Skywarn Spotter training. K9RFZ suggested the 3rd Friday in February to coincide with the Fort Wayne Radio Club meeting. This suggestion follows the former precedent of alternating the training between the two Fort Wayne clubs' regular meeting dates. Fortunately, the NWS was able to accommodate this request.



**The 2011 Basic Skywarn Spotters training for Allen County is scheduled for February 18. Two sessions will be hosted at the Public Safety Academy with the first at 2:00 p.m. and the second session at 7:00 p.m. The public is welcome to attend either session. Basic Skywarn Spotter training should be repeated at least once in every three year period to remain a Skywarn volunteer.**

## 2010 Foxhunt Schedule

Jan.	No hunt	9 Aug	6:30 pm
14 Feb	1:30 pm	13 Sep	6:30 pm
7 Mar	1:30 pm	10 Oct	1:30 pm
11 Apr	1:30 pm	7 Nov	1:30 pm
3 May	6:30 pm	Dec.	No hunt
7 June	6:30 pm		
12 July	6:30 pm		



All foxhunts start at off track betting parking lot, Washington Ctr. & Lima Rds.

## Regional Hamfests

Date	Location	Contact Phone	URL or E-mail
13-14 Nov 2010	Fort Wayne, IN	260-579-2196	<a href="http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com">http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com</a>
27 Nov 2010	Evansville, IN	812-333-4116	<a href="http://w9ear.org/hamfest.htm">http://w9ear.org/hamfest.htm</a>
20 Feb 2011	Livonia, MI	734-941-5043	<a href="http://www.livoniaarc.com/Swap.htm">http://www.livoniaarc.com/Swap.htm</a>
19 Mar 2011	Marshall, MI	269-339-1908	<a href="http://www.w8df.com/hamfest.html">http://www.w8df.com/hamfest.html</a>

For more complete information go to <http://www.acarts.com/hamfests.htm> or <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/search>



**The Foxhunt Chronicles**  
**October 2010 - Al Burke, WB9SSE**

The 9<sup>th</sup> Foxhunt of the 2010 season occurred on Sunday afternoon, the 10<sup>th</sup> of October. The weather was a perfect example of Indian summer in the mid-west; temperatures in the 80's, a gorgeous blue sky, a mild breeze, just perfect for a Foxhunt.

The October hunters included Jim & Kim Machamer, KB9's DOS & DOT, Steve Nardin, W9SAN and his grandson Alex, Charles Ward, KC9MUT, Woody Woodbury, KC9CGN, Carl Thomas, WB9YYI, and Fred Gengnagel, KC9EZP, six teams in all.

The role of the wily fox was provided by Jim & Annie Pliett, K9OMA & WB9YYI plus Carole & Al Burke, WB9RUS & WB9SSE. They hid their Jeep in the woods at the Robison Park FWRC repeater site and hid the fox itself, (a cross-band HT) between the screen door and entry door of the club's repeater building. (This was an alternate to MY plan...which was to make use of the 146.91 antenna on the Robison Park tower to radiate the fox signal, with the fox HT inside the building. It would have driven everyone nuts. But Jim allowed that certain of our foxhunters are known to carry firearms and have shovels, and we were, after all, in the woods. So I acquiesced to his wisdom on the matter and we employed the alternate plan).

The fox started out running about 50 watts into a side-mounted thru-the-glass monopole on the Jeep. After about 45 minutes the first foxhunter team (Jim & Kim Machamer) showed up at Robison Park. They were followed by Steve Nardin, Carl Thomas, Woody Woodbury, Charles Ward and Fred Gengnagel in that order. After the first team arrived at the scene, the fox alternated running high power (thru the Jeep) for one minute followed by one minute using the hidden HT itself.

Although the Machamers were the first on scene, it turned out that Charles Ward, employing a fancy new whiz-bang (a technical term) piece of foxhunting technology, was the first to locate the fox between the screen door and entry door of the repeater building. Charles had borrowed Joseph Lawrence's microcontroller based foxhunting receiver that Joseph had just imported from Australia. This thing is a PIC controlled receiver that is synthesized for the VHF band, can operate in AM or FM mode, has a wide range automatic attenuator on it's

input, and evidently looks at the RSSI output from the IF chain to control an audio range VCO that indicates received signal strength in the form of a variable pitch audible tone. The automatic attenuator and variable pitch signal strength tone features make the unit very effective in zeroing in on signal sources, such as a fox. So effective, in fact, that Charles was able to walk directly up to the fox once he was in the area and it was on the air. We were very impressed with this gadget. Joseph uses it mainly to hunt down rf noise sources from power poles, but it can be used to locate any rf source that radiates in the VHF spectrum.

Following Charles's success with the gadget, Steve Nardin and grandson Alex found the fox, and then Woody Woodbury, Jim & Kim Machamer, Carl Thomas and Fred Gengnagel in that order.

After completing the hunt, we all proceeded to Culver's at Dupont Rd. and I-69 for a well deserved repast of hamburgers, malts, sundaes, and other low calorie foods.

The next hunt will be the last hunt for 2010 and will occur on Sunday 7 November starting from the Off-Track Betting Parlor parking lot at 1:30 p.m. Charles Ward, KC9MUT will serve as the quarry, so this one should prove interesting.

Following the hunt, all are invited to the annual end-of-foxhunting-season party most likely held at Jim & Annie Plietts place. (Jim and Annie have just had a geo-thermal heating system installed and there are mounds of dirt in their back yard residual from the trench digging. In case we get a lot of rain so that their back yard is muddy, the party will be held at Carole and Al Burke's place instead). One way or the other, we will have a party, so plan to attend and bring something as a carry-in and whatever you like to drink. (It is again rumored that Jim's famous Apple-Jack/Nitro-Methane beverage will be in attendance for the truly brave and adventurous).

Hope to see you there.

[Check out the foxhunt photos on page 7.]

**Year To Date Foxhunt Scores**

K9OMA	KA9YYI	WB9SSE	WB9RUS	W9SAN	KC9CGN	WB9YBI	KC9KTG	KB9DOS	KB9DOT	KC9AFE
27	27	27	27	9	13.5	8.5	6.5	22	22	4
KC9MUT	W9GGA	WB9BGJ	KB9ZQG	KC7EHE	KC9PJP	N9UWR	KC9EZP	KC7EHE	N9TB	KB9WVO
25	1	6	6	4	5	13.5	3	5.5	4	4

## Membership Application for ACARTS - and/or - FWRC

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call sign: \_\_\_\_\_ License class: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_-4 Phone #: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_ Unlisted?  Yes

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL Member?  Yes

(ARRL membership helps your club maintain affiliation.)

May we list your name, call & email address in our membership roster and on our club web site?  Yes  No

Both clubs now offer this newsletter as a downloadable (Adobe Acrobat) PDF file, in lieu of a paper copy sent through the mail. For FWRC a mailed paper newsletter is a \$20.00/yr. premium.

How would you like your newsletter delivered?  by snail mail  download from web site.

### A.C.A.R.T.S. Dues

Regular membership  \$12.00 / year  
 Additional family members <sup>1</sup>  \$6.00 / year  
 Student membership <sup>2</sup>  \$6.00 / year  
 Associate membership <sup>3</sup>  \$6.00 / year  
 (New Regular memberships are \$1/month)

### Fort Wayne Radio Club Dues

Regular membership  \$20.00 / year  
 Family membership <sup>1</sup>  \$30.00 / year  
 Student membership <sup>2</sup>  \$5.00 / year  
 Associate membership <sup>3</sup>  \$20.00 / year  
 Mailed newsletter premium  \$20.00 / year  
 (Memberships for Jul - Dec are 1/2 the stated amounts.)

1. Please list all names and calls on an attached sheet.

2. K-12 or full time student

3. unlicensed member

4. 9 digit ZIP code required for US bulk mail

Please attach a check (number \_\_\_\_\_) for the appropriate amount and bring to a club meeting or mail to:

ACARTS  
 PO Box 10342  
 Fort Wayne, IN 46851

Fort Wayne Radio Club.  
 PO Box 15127  
 Fort Wayne, IN 46885

For dual membership, fill out both sides and send 2 checks to either club. **Payment by check is strongly encouraged!**

### **ACARTS Voice Repeaters**

146.880 (-) General use / Skywarn priority

147.255 (+) General use / Autopatch priority\*

443.800 (+) General use

(All repeaters have autopatch, but 88 has only speed dial emergency #'s.)

### **ACARTS Digital Repeaters (digipeaters)**

144.390 (s) APRS - wide

145.530 (s) W9INX-1 Digipeater and Node

### **Fort Wayne Radio Club Repeaters**

Voice: 146.76 (-) General use

146.94 (-) General use with autopatch

146.91 (-) EchoLink connection repeater  
 Node number 519521

444.875 (+) General use

ATV: 439.25 In, 910.250 Out, 144.340 Audio & control

### **Area Traffic Nets**

(please submit any changes or corrections to the editor)

**IMO:** meets nightly at 6:30 p.m. on 146.88-

**Tri State Two Meter Net:** meets daily at 7:00 p.m. on 147.015+

**21 Repeater Group:** Wed. at 7:30 p.m. on 147.150

**Help and Swap Net:** Mon. at 9:00 p.m. 146.94(-)

**Daily Indiana Traffic Net** 3.910 @ 8:30 a.m. & 4:30 p.m. local times

**Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net** 3.535 @ 9:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. local times

### **Miscellaneous Nets**

**Allen Co. ARES Training Net:** Tue. at 9:00 p.m. on 146.94-

**Emergency Preparedness Net:** Thu. at 9:00 p.m. on 146.88-

**Huntington ARES:** Sat. at 8:00 p.m. on 146.685-

**Whitley Co. ARES:** Wed. at 8:00 p.m. on 145.270 (Note 131.8 PL disabled for all nets)

**Whitley Co. Sunday:** Sun. at 8:00 p.m. on 444.550+, 131.8 PL

**"No-Name" Net:** 8:30 pm Sunday and Wednesday nights. 1.965 MHz or cross band on the 146.91 repeater.

**Little Red Barn Net:** M, W, F @ 8:30 a.m. on 3820 kHz. Net control is K9ODF

**Northeast Indiana Packet Net:** Sunday at 9:00 p.m. on 145.530 @ 1200 baud. We use unconnected converse mode to communicate for a roundtable net setting. Use your "UNPROTO" command or equivalent to set Digi path(s) through the strongest station(s) needed between you and your destination. Only use those that are necessary! Have all your "Monitor" settings on so you can see everyone.

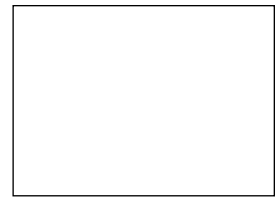
**FWRC YL Net:** Wed. 7:00 p.m. on 146.76-

**FWRC 6 Meter Net:** Tue. 8:00 p.m. on 50.580 USB

**6 Meter AM Net:** Thursday nights at 7:00 pm ET, 50.580 MHz

**FW Area Student Net:** Wed. 9:00 p.m. on 146.91-

Allen County HamNews  
 PO BOX 10342  
 FORT WAYNE, IN 46851



TO:



### Activities Calendar

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Place</b>
11/7/10	1:30 PM	foxhunt	off track betting parking lot, Washington Ctr. & Lima Rds.
11/9/10	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
11/9/10	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Center
11/13-14/10	9:00 AM	Fort Wayne Hamfest	Memorial Coliseum
11/16/10	7:00 PM	ACARTS General Meeting	Salvation Army Center
11/19/10	7:00 PM	FWRC Meeting	GSUMC
12/3/10	---	deadline for Dec. ACHN items	
12/7/10	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
12/10/10	6:30 PM	FWRC Christmas Banquet	GSUMC
12/14/10	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Center
12/21/10	7:00 PM	ACARTS Christmas Dinner	Casa Ristorante, 7545 W. Jefferson
1/7/11	---	deadline for Jan. ACHN items	
1/11/11	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
1/11/11	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Center
1/18/11	7:00 PM	ACARTS General Meeting	Salvation Army Center
1/21/11	6:00 PM	FWRC Auction	GSUMC
2/4/11	---	deadline for Feb. ACHN items	